

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held on Wednesday, January 23, 2002, immediately following the Closed Session,
in Room GM 407-1, SGW Campus

Attendance

Present: Mrs. Lillian Vineberg, *Chairwoman*, Dr. Steven Appelbaum, Ms. Barbara Barclay, Ms. Cristelle Basmaji, Ms. Joanne Beaudoin, Mr. Patrice Blais, Dr. William Byers, Mr. Alex Carpini, Dr. June Chaikelson, Mr. Howard Davidson, Me Rita de Santis, Dr. Terrill Fancott, Ms. Nicole Fauré, Me Pierre Frégeau, *Observer*, Mr. Leo Goldfarb, Dr. Christine Jourdan, Mrs. Judith Kavanagh, Mr. Peter Kruyt, Ms. Christine Lengvari, Dr. Loren Lerner, Dr. Frederick Lowy, *Rector and Vice-Chancellor*, Mr. Rocci Luppicini, Sister Eileen McIlwaine Ph.D., Mr. John Parisella, *Vice-Chairman*, Mr. Richard Renaud, *Vice-Chairman*, Mrs. Miriam Roland, Ms. Sabrina Stea, Mr. Jacques St-Laurent, Mr. Ivan Velan

Officers of the University: Prof. Marcel Danis, Mr. Michael Di Grappa, Mr. Larry English

Absent: Mr. Alain Benedetti, Mr. Charles G. Cavell, Mr. Brian Edwards, Mr. George Hanna, Mrs. Hazel Mah, Mr. Paul Kefalas, Mr. Ronald Lawless, Mr. Eric Molson, *Chancellor*, Mr. Sami Nazzal, Mr. Alex G. Potter, Mrs. Mackie Vadacchino de Massy, Mr. Jonathan Wener

Guests: Me Bram Freedman (Assistant Secretary General and General Counsel), Mr. Garry Milton (Executive Director, Rector's Cabinet)

Documents associated with the Minutes

BG-2002-1-D1	Memo from Director of Human Resources regarding an administrative and support staff representative on the Employee Benefits Committee
BG-2002-1-D2	Resolution of the Executive Committee regarding the Appeals Panel
BG-2002-1-D3	Rector's report
BG-2002-1-D4	Draft deed regarding Faubourg servitude

1. **Call to Order**

The Open Session was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

1.1 Chairwoman's remarks

Mrs. Vineberg congratulated Richard Renaud on his being awarded the Loyola Medal at a meaningful ceremony which took place on the evening before the Board meeting. Over 400 people were in attendance to pay tribute to this truly deserving recipient.

The Chairwoman informed the Board that on January 14, the John Molson School of Business commerce games team came home with the academic gold, a fantastic improvement over last year's results. In addition, the team tied for the overall gold with the Ivey School of Business.

In closing, Mrs. Vineberg reminded Governors that a memorial service will be held on January 28, at 4 p.m. at the Loyola Chapel, in memory of Gabrielle Murphy, the University's liaison with the Loyola Alumni Association for over 25 years.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

Mrs. Vineberg mentioned that an item regarding a servitude was added to the Agenda.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Fauré, Jourdan), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R2002-3 *THAT the Agenda be approved as revised.*

1.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous meeting (December 12, 2001)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Renaud, Carpini), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R2002-4 *THAT the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous regular meeting of the Board, held December 12, 2001, be approved.*

2. Business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

3. Election of an administrative and support staff representative to the Benefits Committee

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Beaudoin, Carpini), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R2002-5 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Electoral College, Mr. Jim Poulin be elected a member of the Benefits Committee for the period beginning immediately and ending on December 31, 2003.*

4. Ratification of the decision made by the Executive Committee regarding the Appeals Panel

Mrs. Vineberg reported that the Secretary of the Board of Governors had received notification from Tom Keefer and Laith Marouf indicating their intent to appeal the Rector's decision with regards to their exclusion from campus and thereby requesting that the Board exercise its superintending powers. In accordance with the University by-laws, Mrs. Vineberg referred this matter to the Appeals Committee of the Board.

The Executive Committee met on January 11 to approve the establishment, composition and mandate of an Appeals Panel which will hear this appeal and make a recommendation to the Board. The Appeals Panel was constituted by the Executive Committee so that the appeal process could be initiated as soon as possible. Mrs. Vineberg pointed out that Dr. Lowy had not participated in that meeting.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Appelbaum, Byers), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R2002-6 *THAT the Board of Governors ratify the January 11, 2002 decision of the Executive Committee regarding the establishment, composition and mandate of the Appeals Panel, as outlined in Document BG-2002-1-D2.*

5. Progress report from the Advisory Search Committee for the Dean of Graduate Studies

In the absence of the Chair of the Committee, Dr. Lowy reported on behalf of Dr. Lightstone. Internal and external ads and notices are in place for the extended search for a Dean, Graduate Studies. The application deadline is March 15, 2002, or until the position is filled with commencement of duties on September 1, 2002, or as soon thereafter as possible.

6. Progress report from the Advisory Search Committee for the Dean of the John Molson School of Business

Dr. Lowy stated that the extended application deadline resulted in 10 additional applications being received, bringing the total number of applicants to 15. The Committee had met yesterday and determined an interview list. Following the interviews, a short list will be made and an open meeting will be held to introduce the candidates to the community.

6A. Faubourg servitude

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Goldfarb, Appelbaum), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R2002-7 *WHEREAS the University is the owner of the property designated as lot 1 066 164 of the Cadastre of Quebec, with a building thereon bearing civic address 1250 Guy Street, City of Montreal, Province of Quebec (known as the Faubourg, Phase II);*

WHEREAS a portion of the building encroaches upon a neighbouring property designated as lot 1 066 152 of the Cadastre of Quebec;

WHEREAS the owner of the neighbouring property is desirous of regularizing the encroachment and has agreed to grant a servitude of tolerance to the University, at no charge to the University; and

WHEREAS there are no adverse consequences to the University in agreeing to such a servitude;

THAT the Assistant Secretary General and General Counsel, on behalf of Concordia University, be authorized to enter into a servitude of tolerance substantially in the form of the draft under Document BG-2002-1-D4 and to sign any documentation related thereto.

7. Report of the Real Estate Planning Committee

Mr. Goldfarb presented the report on behalf of Jonathan Wener. Five bids, ranging from \$52,368,000 to \$55,458,290, were received for lot three of the Science Complex on the Loyola Campus. The bids were analyzed by the project professionals and a recommendation was made to the Real Estate Planning Committee at its meeting of January 21. The Committee has accepted this recommendation and the University will be awarding a construction contract to EBC Inc. of Quebec City for \$52,368,000. The project team is comfortable that EBC has the experience and ability to execute this project.

This low bid, even after taking into consideration certain unforeseen expenses, will allow the project to come in approximately \$1.4 million under budget. There is much work that remains and change orders and extras are to be expected on a project of this size and complexity. Nonetheless, the Committee is confident that the project will come in on time and under budget. On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Goldfarb congratulated the project team for the wonderful results to date.

With respect to the Engineering and Computer Science and Fine Arts Building, work is proceeding on the preliminary drawings. June 3 is the target date for the tender, subject, of course, to obtaining the necessary board approvals beforehand. If all goes according to schedule, work could begin in August. However, if the University is successful in securing substantial government funding and there is a need to proceed earlier, the excavation phase of the project could begin almost immediately.

Mr. St-Laurent wondered if the Engineering Building would be ready for occupancy in September 2004, considering that the construction work is scheduled to begin in August 2002. Unless there are some unforeseen circumstances, Mr. Goldfarb indicated that he expected the building would be ready at the projected date. Mr. St-Laurent asked that this be recorded in the Minutes of the meeting.

8. Report of the Rector

Dr. Lowy conveyed the highlights of his report, a copy of which had been included in the Board mailing under document number BG-2002-1-D3. The report intended to set the stage for the February Board meeting, at which time detailed construction and financing plans will be presented for the new building projects, and a notice of motion will be introduced for the March meeting. Apart from the immediate need for space due to the growing number of students, new buildings are critical to the University's long-range goal of achieving parity with older universities.

While Concordia has achieved parity in the areas of teaching, administration and community services, it still faces challenges with regards to its research performance, endowments and physical facilities. Indeed, Concordia's buildings are grossly inadequate. For example, the Hall Building, originally built to receive 5000 students a day, receives 15,000 students daily. Most CEGEPs and high schools have better sports facilities than Concordia. Moreover, Concordia is the only Montreal university that does not have a student center.

As a result, Dr. Lowy will present the details at next month's meeting with a view to obtaining the Board's approval in principle regarding the construction and financing of the downtown Engineering/Computer Science and Visual Arts Complex followed by the John Molson School of Business building and the expansion of the athletic facilities. It is projected that about \$100 million, representing about one third of the total cost, will have to be borrowed.

With respect to Concordia's research performance, while it is not at the level of parity with established universities, Dr. Lowy was nevertheless pleased to point out that there had been a progressive rise since 1974. He apprised the Board of some major research grants recently awarded to Concordia professors.

Pursuant to Ms. Stea's comment about a recent statement made by Education Minister François Legault regarding the possibility of unfreezing tuition fees, a lengthy discussion ensued during which Governors expressed various options and opinions on the accessibility and universality of higher education. However, there was a general consensus that a broad based discussion on the importance and value of education in Quebec would be necessary in order to find constructive ways to frame the issue of overall funding.

Mr. Carpini queried the Rector regarding the outcome of the CSU student election held in November. Dr. Lowy indicated that the administration would refrain from commenting until the CSU Board of Directors' decision would be known. Mr. Blais explained that the CSU Judicial Board had reviewed the election process. In a three to one ruling relayed in a 22-page report, the Board had found numerous irregularities, thereby declaring the election null and void. This decision requires ratification by the CSU Board of Directors, which will be meeting tonight. Mr. Blais affirmed that regardless of the CSU Board's decision, he planned to remain involved in student affairs but was not interested in holding an executive position.

9. Reports of the Vice-Rectors

9.1 Provost and Vice-Rector, Research

Dr. Lightstone was absent.

9.2 Vice-Rector, Services

Mr. Di Grappa was pleased to announce the appointment of Roger Côté, Director of Financial Aid and Awards and Associate Dean of Students, to the position of Director of the Enrolment Management Transformation Project. Over the next 18 months, Mr. Côté will work with the Faculties, Office of the Registrar, Student Recruitment, IITS and Student Services to make changes to Concordia's administrative policies and procedures that will allow an improvement in the quality of services offered to students and Faculties. The focus of the first part of the exercise will be reducing the admission cycle time, which is the delay between the students' initial application and their receipt of the University's response.

9.3 Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations and Secretary-General

Prof. Danis waived his report.

9.4 Chief Financial Officer

Mr. English informed the Board of the U.S. government's decision to impose its reporting requirements with respect to U.S. students coming to study in Canada on a bursary. Five major Canadian universities, namely Concordia, McGill, UBC, University of Toronto and Memorial, were advised that they must comply, if not the students will lose the bursary. For Concordia this would signify maintaining a separate U.S. set of books, at an additional cost of approximately \$100,000.

An audit was performed last summer by NSERC, one of the federal research granting agencies. The University has over 600 research accounts, resulting in 10,000 transactions in any given year. In the course of the audit, 181 transactions were examined, of which only five were identified as having irregularities. Those five transactions took up 80% of the audit time. Governors were quite amused by the Chief Financial Officer's explanation of the nature of the aforementioned irregularities, all of which were for quite minute sums, ranging from \$0.75 to \$20.00.

10. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

11. Any other business

There was no other business to come before the Board.

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on February 13, 2002, at 8 a.m., on the SGW Campus, in Room GM 407-1.

13. Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Submitted by Danielle Tessier, Secretary of the Board of Governors and Senate, for approval by the Board at its meeting of February 13, 2002.